

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM, and the following members were present:

Mr. Richard Carpender, Chair	Mrs. Marge Levesque, Clerk	Ms. Marilyn King
Ms. Sylvia Wedge, Vice Chair	Mr. Michael Buddemeyer	Ms. Angela Volpicelli

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Colleen Jermain, Christine Tague, Patti Cofield, Rick Updegrave

Absent: Mr. Jamie Heaney and Amy Larsen (High School Liaison)

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.

Public Session recessed at 7:06 PM and resumed at 7:30 PM.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mr. Carpender reported that a brief Executive Session was held prior to this meeting. A motion was made on a contractual matter by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque. The motion passed 6-0. The Executive Session recessed and will resume at the end of this meeting and will be reported out.
2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Lusi thanked the administration team and building administrators for working tirelessly on budget items, salaries, programs, extra-curricular activities, etc.
  - a) **Teaching and Learning:** Assistant Superintendent Jermain congratulated the PMS staff for all their work preparing for their SALT visit in April. She announced that Kindergarten registration will be open starting next week, using an online appointment process. A terminal has been set up at the Administration Building. There will also be an online screening appointment process. Mrs. Jermain thanked Mrs. Massarotti, Mrs. Nash, Mrs. Muller, Mr. Freeman, and Mr. Peluso for their assistance getting the new process up and running. The next process will be online text book ordering for private school students.
  - b) **Finance and Operations:** Ms. Tague announced that she will be attending a meeting on Friday with RISSA to discuss oil, electric, and gas. She stated that the market has downturned, and it may be to our advantage to enter into a new price agreement.
  - c) High School Liaison: Absent.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve the minutes of the meetings held January 13, 2009, and January 27, 2009. So voted 6-0.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Carpenter moved item r) to the Business Agenda.

- a) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee acknowledges the resignation for retirement of Leslie J. Ainsworth, Regional Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Ms. Ainsworth reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- b) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of John F. Blaess, Assistant Principal at Portsmouth High School, effective June 30, 2009. Mr. Blaess reserves the right to retire as of March 31, 2009, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- c) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Jamie L. Caromile, Music Teacher at Hathaway and Melville Schools, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Caromile reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- d) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Susan Corseri, Speech/Language Teacher at Melville School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Corseri reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- e) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Mary F. Dufour, Grade 2 Teacher at Hathaway School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Dufour reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- f) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Rosemarie Escobar, Fine Arts Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Ms. Escobar reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”

- g) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Elaine M. Heller, Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Ms. Heller reserves the right to retire as of March 31, 2009, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- h) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Michael Medeiros, Physical Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Medeiros reserves the right to rescind his retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- i) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Suzanne Roklan, Grade 1 Teacher at Melville School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Roklan reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- j) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Robert Rutkiewicz, Science Teacher at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Rutkiewicz reserves the right to rescind his retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- k) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Nancy L. Souza, School Nurse Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Souza reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- l) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Carol Strakosch, Library Media Specialist at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Strakosch reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- m) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Albert D. Sweet, Jr., Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Sweet reserves the right to rescind his retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”

- n) **Teacher Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the School Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Fran Dutelle, Intense Resource Teacher at Melville School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Dutelle reserves the right to rescind her retirement letter, given the proposed changes to the state retirement system.”
- o) **Clerical Retirement.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee accepts the resignation for retirement of Joanne F. Fitzgerald, from the position of Clerk, Category B, in the Guidance Department at Portsmouth High School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year.”
- p) **Teacher Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee accepts the resignation of Gregory Decoteaux, from the position of Science Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year.”
- q) **Teacher Resignation.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee accepts the resignation of Jessica Kokolski, from the position of Modern Language Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School, effective with the last day of the 2008-09 school year.”
- r) **Coaching Appts. – PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, “that the Committee affirms the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the 2008-09 school year as presented.” (Moved to Business Agenda by Mr. Carpenter)

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to approve items a) through q) on the Consent Agenda. So voted 6-0. Dr. Lusi announced that there are 14 potential retirements this year. The Portsmouth School Department and NEA Portsmouth entered into a Memorandum of Agreement in January allowing teachers to submit rescindable retirement letters given that the teachers were being asked to make life-altering decisions based on little or no information on the Governor’s proposal prior to the February deadline. Dr. Lusi announced the potential retirees:

- a) Leslie J. Ainsworth, Regional Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School
- b) John F. Blaess, Assistant Principal at Portsmouth High School
- c) Jamie L. Caromile, Music Teacher at Hathaway and Melville Schools
- d) Susan Corseri, Speech/Language Teacher at Melville School
- e) Mary F. Dufour, Grade 2 Teacher at Hathaway School
- f) Rosemarie Escobar, Fine Arts Teacher at Portsmouth High School
- g) Elaine M. Heller, Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School
- h) Michael Medeiros, Physical Education Teacher at Portsmouth High School
- i) Suzanne Roklan, Grade 1 Teacher at Melville School

- j) Robert Rutkiewicz, Science Teacher at Portsmouth High School
- k) Nancy L. Souza, School Nurse Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School
- l) Carol Strakosch, Library Media Specialist at Portsmouth Middle School
- m) Albert D. Sweet, Jr., Special Education Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School
- n) Fran Dutelle, Intense Resource Teacher at Melville School
- o) Joanne F. Fitzgerald, Clerk, Category B
- p) Gregory Decoteaux, Science Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School
- q) Jessica Kokolski, Modern Language Teacher at Portsmouth Middle School

## 5. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- r) **Coaching Appts. – PHS.** Mr. Carpender asked to remove the appointment of Jay Pacheco because the backup information was not available. A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and seconded by Mrs. Levesque to affirm the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the 2008-09 school year as amended. So voted 6-0.

Dr. Lusi announced the following coaching re-appointments:

Ron Westmoreland	Assistant Coach	Baseball
Jeff McGuirl	Head Coach	Girls Lacrosse
John Heino	Head Coach	Boys Lacrosse
Myke Hurley	Volunteer	Boys Lacrosse
Shaun Horgan	Head Coach	Girls Track
James Peluso	Assistant Coach	Boys Track

Dr. Lusi also announced the following coaching appointments:

Jason Ford	Head Coach	Boys Tennis
Gary Dorsi	Head Coach	Golf

- a) **Non-Renewals/Displacements/Terminations:** Mr. Carpender explained that we have to provide the most flexibility possible when we do layoffs, particularly since we do not know our budget by the March 1 deadline for non-renewals. He stated that public comment would be allowed on the individual motions; however, this is a pre-deprivation hearing so dialogue would not be allowed. Dr. Lusi acknowledged the presence of Attorney Mr. Updegrave and NEA President Cindy Perry. Dr. Lusi stated that there are 45 individuals on this list, and she explained the different categories of layoffs. She explained that we use numbers instead of names for confidentiality purposes. Dr. Lusi strongly disagrees with those who see layoffs, or otherwise reducing teachers, as having no impact on students. She stated that the quality of the individual in the classroom, working with our children, is the most important factor in improving student achievement; and she does not look at reductions in staff as not affecting kids.

- 1) **Substitute Teacher Non-Renewals.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the long-term assignments of Substitute Teachers 1, 2, 3, and 4, formally end following the completion of their current placement with the Portsmouth School Department. The specific reason for this recommendation is that these substitutes have not been appointed to the position by the School Committee and thus are not eligible for continuous employment and rights of recall. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 2) **Teacher Termination.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teachers 5 and 6, not be renewed on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is the desire of the School Department to re-open the position to seek a larger pool of more qualified candidates. Teachers 5 and 6 are non-tenured and may reapply for the position. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 3) **Teacher Non-Renewals.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contracts of Teachers 7, 8, and 9, not be renewed on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is that these teachers were appointed to a position for less than the equivalent of 135 full days, which does not entitle them to seniority or rights of recall. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 4) **Teacher Non-Renewals.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teachers 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, not be renewed on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is due to the uncertainty of Federal, State, and local funds in support of the School Department's 2009-10 budget. If there is a reduction, the School Committee will have to reorganize programs, eliminate positions, and consolidate classrooms in order to operate within the total budget allocation for school operations. As a result of this reorganization and consolidation, these positions may be eliminated or senior teachers may opt for a position in these areas of certification. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 5) **Teacher Non-Renewals.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teachers 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, not be renewed on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is that the current programs in which these teachers are teaching may be reconstituted and/or eliminated beginning with the

2009-10 academic year to improve the educational efficacy of programmatic offerings for Portsmouth students. As a result of this reconstitution or elimination, these positions may be eliminated. Ms. King asked if the vote could be taken individually or if it had to be on the entire group. Mr. Carpender replied that the vote is on the entire group. There were no questions or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.

- 6) **Administrator Non-Renewal.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the employment contract of Administrator 1 be eliminated on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is due to declining enrollment and the uncertainty of Federal, State, and local funds in support of the School Department's 2009-10 budget. If there is a reduction, the School Committee will have to reorganize programs, eliminate positions, and consolidate classrooms in order to operate within the total budget allocation for school operations. As a result of this reorganization and consolidation, this position may be eliminated. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 7) **Teacher Displacements.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teacher 32 be eliminated on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is due to declining enrollment and the uncertainty of Federal, State, and local funds in support of the School Department's 2009-10 budget. As a result of this, Teacher 32 will be displaced and will be placed on the involuntary transfer list to retain rights to their current position at their current school. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 8) **Teacher Displacements.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teachers 33 and 34 be eliminated on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is due to the uncertainty of Federal, State, and local funds in support of the School Department's 2009-10 budget. As a result of this, Teachers 33 and 34 will be displaced and will be placed on the involuntary transfer list to retain rights to their current position at their current school. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.
- 9) **Teacher Displacements.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the teaching contract of Teachers 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40, be eliminated on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is that the current programs in which these teachers are teaching may be reconstituted and/or eliminated beginning with the 2009-10 academic year to improve the educational efficacy of programmatic offerings for Portsmouth students. As a result of this reconstitution or elimination, Teachers 35,

36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 will be displaced and will be placed on the involuntary transfer list to retain rights to their current position. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.

10) **Administrator Displacements.** A motion was made by Ms. Wedge and was seconded by Mrs. Levesque that the employment contracts of Administrators 2, 3, 4, and 5 be eliminated on June 24, 2009, or the last day of the 2008-09 school year. The specific reason for this recommendation is due to declining enrollment and the uncertainty of Federal, State, and local funds in support of the School Department's 2009-10 budget. As a result of this, Administrators 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be displaced. There were no questions from the Committee or comments from the public. So voted 6-0.

b) **Report on January Financials.** Ms. Tague reported that in the area of Revenue, the first quarter bill for Little Compton tuition, once adjusted, is \$227,024. Assuming no additional changes in enrollments, the revised projection for Little Compton tuition would be \$908,096, which would result in a revenue shortfall of \$83,078. The year-to-date credits for Medicaid receipts for FY'09 total \$200,000. Ms. Tague reported that we are still awaiting the transfer of \$148,000 approved by the School Committee, which will be reflected in the February financials. This transfer will result in the district meeting the budget objective for this line item. Since her report last month to the School Committee, we have received an additional amount of \$64,003.18. This would bring the balance available for transfer to \$106,957, with five months remaining to collect. In the area of State Aid, we are still awaiting the outcome of legislative action concerning the Governor's supplemental budget that could result in revenue shortfalls of approximately \$180,000 for FY'09. We are also awaiting more information on the FY'09 impact, if any, concerning the teachers' retirement and the reduction of general aid by the same corresponding amount of \$734,195. Ms. Tague reported that we have been informed that it is a wash; however, until we have further information, we are anticipating the worst case for budgetary purposes. Regarding Impact Aid, the budget of \$263,000 is based upon the recommended amount calculated by the formula in place at the time the federal budget is approved. Since then, several appropriations from prior years have passed by Congress; and to date, we have received \$358,121. Ms. Tague reported that we have asked all building level administrators to expend only 80 percent of appropriations. The anticipated savings that could result is \$174,000 in unexpended appropriations. In addition, we have discontinued a portion of our professional development for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Ms. Tague reported on Expenditures as of January 31, 2009. In the area of Salaries & Benefits, the substitute salary account is projected to be approximately \$100,000 over the \$283,000 budgeted. This is primarily due to four long-term substitutes that are covering four teaching positions. Two of the positions are for vacancies, and the other two are because of maternity and illness. Even with this budget variance, we are still projecting



overall positive budget variances of approximately \$100,000. Ms. Tague reported that we have since been notified of four anticipated maternity absences beginning in the spring. In each instance, the teachers have enough accumulated sick time; and therefore, the Substitutes pay will be in addition to the teachers' salaries. In addition, most teachers do not utilize their personal time until the last quarter of the school year. While some of this has been factored into the projection, this positive variance could well be gone, depending on the length of time the absences require and the amount of personal time utilized by each teacher. Concerning benefits, an analysis of the year-to-date actual for healthcare projected for the remainder of the year and based upon the past seven months claims could result in a negative variance of approximately \$81,000. This variance could be because of several individuals that have changed from the single plan to the family plan due to qualifying events or the large loss claims we experienced in the prior months. Ms. Tague will continue to analyze and inform the Committee. She reported that we received our working rate for the next fiscal year, and the increase is 6.99 percent. This is 3.1 percent lower than projected in her GAP analysis for next fiscal year. Ms. Tague reported that certified retirement as projected for the end of the year anticipates being close to budget or slightly under budget by approximately \$20,000. FICA's current year-end projections are anticipated to come in approximately \$40,000 under budget; however, this could change when substitutes are needed to cover the end of the year absences.

In the area of Utilities, Ms. Tague reported that while the cost of gasoline prices has gone down since last August, Portsmouth did participate in the EBEC bid for No. 2 fuel oil. She reported that this bid locked us in for the year at a price per gallon of \$3.45 until June 30, 2009. Since her last update, the Town Manager and Finance Director contacted Brennan Oil to see if we could get any relief with the dropping oil prices, and she will provide the committee with the result of that conference call in her finance update. She reported that the electricity budget of \$291,754 is 82.61 percent or \$243,531 of budget. This variance is attributable to a reduction in the total budget for the anticipated savings from the Wind Turbine project of approximately \$128,000. It was anticipated that the turbine would be functioning much sooner. Once we have a month's worth of operations, she will be in a better position to inform the Committee as to the negative variance, if any, that may result from the delays of operations and negative budgetary impact. In FY'10, it has been determined that we will budget the expenditures on a gross basis, and distributions made from the enterprise fund are to be recorded as revenue to offset the expenses.

Ms. Tague reported on other major expenses. Regarding the Special Education Assessment, the approved budget by the board for the Region is \$250,000 over the original budget. However, the savings in out-of-district placements of approximately \$400,000 will more than offset this variance. This cost savings will continue to accrue as out of district tuition increases generally trend about 10 to 15 percent. Regarding the regional vocational program, Ms. Tague reported that we have received the first quarter bill for the Newport Area Career and Technical Center of \$25,673. Based upon enrollments and

projected out for the remainder of the fiscal year, our regional bill for the year would be \$102,692. We had budgeted \$150,000 and, therefore, could see a savings of \$47,308. Regarding transportation, she reported that the budget is currently running at 42.46 percent. We could see a positive budget variance of approximately \$60,000; however, she is still evaluating the monthly charges. Depending on the level of competitive programs we participate in, the athletic transportation budget generally exceeds budget by approximately \$32,000.

Ms. Tague reported that the budget for this fiscal year appears to be within attainable levels, even with the projected state aid cuts, excluding teacher retirement cuts, as we have taken a proactive approach by holding the line on discretionary spending. While this is good news in a sense, the Committee and the public need to understand that holding this line means that we are unable to fully fund areas that have been School Committee priorities, particularly professional development and school-based budgets for things such as instructional materials.

Mrs. Levesque asked about the certified retirements and how that will affect the retirement payment to the state. Mr. Tague stated that it depends on what level these people are at. It may be difficult to get a math teacher at a Step 1, for example. There will be some savings on our contribution level, but given the state of the retirement system, she is not too confident of the number. Dr. Lusi stated that we also have to look at the implications of severance when people retire. Ms. Tague stated that if all teachers who have put in letters do retire, there will be an additional \$150,000 cost increase for severance payments. This may “wash itself out” due to other positive variances, but we will have to monitor this closely.

**c) Discussion of Collaboration with the Town in the face of Financial Difficulties.**

Dr. Lusi stated that Mr. Carpenter attended last night’s Town Council meeting. She read the letter she sent to Mr. Driscoll on February 17<sup>th</sup> regarding the School Department’s fund balance. On the Town side, they are waiting to see exactly what is going to happen in the General Assembly for this year and next, and they had discussions about potentially using our fund balance to help their problem this year. Dr. Lusi stated that she reminded them in her letter that cooperation is required by both sides because the utilization of the school’s fund balance is at the sole discretion of the School Committee. Mr. Carpenter stated that there was a discussion at the meeting of a memo containing a list of items that the Town could work towards in order to address their own potential budget shortfalls in the current year. One item was to talk to National Grid to turn off every other street light in the town, and a motion to move forward with that was made. Another motion was made to authorize Mr. Driscoll to manage the rest of that list. Part of it was the transfer of the fund balance of \$217,000. Mr. Carpenter stated that he did address the Council on that matter and reiterated Dr. Lusi’s memo. The law states that utilization of the fund balance is at the sole discretion of the School Committee. He is unsure whether we can return some of the money to the Town if we have the opportunity to do that. He

also assured the Council on a specific question regarding salary increases that we were certainly looking at everything we could look at on a School Committee level and that we want to work with the town to do the best we can.

6. **SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA**

- a) **Finance:** Mr. Buddemeyer announced that discussions have begun on what funding the School Department may or may not receive from the state, and cuts we may have to make as a result. The next Finance Subcommittee meeting will take place on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 PM.
- b) **Policy:** Ms. Wedge stated that she and Ms. Volpicelli will discuss scheduling a meeting with Dr. Lusi in the near future.
- c) **Facilities:** Mr. Buddemeyer announced that interviews for the expanded Facilities Subcommittee will be held tomorrow. The full subcommittee will be established after that. The first meeting of the expanded subcommittee will be held in mid-March, and a time for subsequent monthly meetings will be established.

A motion was made by Ms. Wedge to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Law 42-46-5, Exceptions (a)(1) Job Performance/Personnel Matters, and (a)(2) Collective Bargaining and/or Litigation. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 6-0.

The Public Session recessed at 8:31 PM and resumed at 8:57 PM.

Mr. Carpender announced that the Executive Session held prior to this meeting was just completed. There was one motion made on a contractual matter by Mr. Buddemeyer. It was seconded by Ms. Wedge and approved 6-0.

Mr. Buddemeyer made a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Seconded by Ms. Wedge. So voted 6-0.

Ms. Wedge made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Volpicelli. So voted 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield  
Recording Secretary for:

Marge Levesque, Clerk